

Franklin County Council  
June 23, 2015  
Commissioners/Council Room 203

Council: Becky Oglesby, Daryl Kramer, Aaron Leffingwell, Jeff Koch, Keith Hall, Joe Sizemore, Dean McQueen  
Auditor: Stephen Brack

Open: The meeting was called to order by President Becky Oglesby and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion to approve minutes was made by Jeff Koch and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Sizemore. Motion carried.

State Called Meeting: President Oglesby noted that she and Councilman Daryl Kramer attended the State Called Meeting in Shelbyville and stated that only 170 out of 650 Councilmen attended. It was also stated that there is a need to make sure our Jail Systems meet certain criteria. President Oglesby said she would discuss areas of concern with the Judge. On the Federal Level – federal grants are starting to go mental health for rehabilitation. The courts are going to be involved in sentencing and some grant funding at the state level, all in the planning stages.

Public Safety – Grant Reeves - Mr. Reeves provided additional information on the possible enactment of the Public Safety Income Tax for 2016. Mr. Reeves explained the time frame for a Public Safety Tax adoption and suggested to Council that they set a vote for either August or September on a tax to be imposed in January 2016. He stated that the procedure would require a ten day notice of a public hearing prior to the vote. If the vote is not unanimous, the tax fails; however it can be voted on again at a subsequent meeting. If the 2<sup>nd</sup> vote is not unanimous but the tax wins the majority of the vote it becomes a law. Council agreed to hold off until after the Budget Workshop that will be held on Aug. 11, 2015, which would give them a better idea on whether the tax will be needed. A motion was made by Daryl Kramer to set the date of August 18 at 7:00PM for the Public Safety Tax Hearing, to be held in the Commissioners/Council meeting Room and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Koch. Motion carried. Councilman Kramer asked Mr. Reeves if a tax can be levied at less than the maximum rate of .25% and was told that it can be less if it turns out that less revenue than expected is needed to fund the budge. Mr. Reeves also stated that some of the revenue collected is mandated to go to local municipalities to meet their public safety needs. The example that Mr. Reeves used is that EDIT tax usually brings in about a million dollars, last year \$825,000 stayed with the county and the balance was distributed to the municipalities. A motion was made by Daryl Kramer to have Mr. Reeves and the Auditor verify the numbers for Municipalities and approximate income and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Sizemore. Motion carried.

Park Board - Ted Hensley and Jerry Hesselbrock, representing the Park Board stated their fundt had been cut substantially for the current year. Councilman Kramer told them that was true and that actually their budget was \$2,000 more than the year before. He stated again that is why we need to pass a tax. Also he said they were not the only department that this happened to. Councilman Kramer also noted that Council is responsible for balancing funds with budgets and moving levies where they are needed.

EDC – Bill Schirmer – spoke to the council on the possibility of hiring a director in 2016. He asked that Council members contact him so he could tell them about the potential that EDC has



with a director is in place. Mr. Schirmer told the Council they are missing the boat because there is nobody to answer phones and work with different projects. Mr. Schirmer has requested a transfer of funds to help cover the cost of a computer for the office and stated that most of the cost would be covered by a grant from Whitewater Valle REMC in the amount of \$1,767.00.

Franklin County Highway – Hollie Maxie – came to the council on behalf of the Highway Department about a recently discovered problem on Bridge #12. A supporting I-Beam has rusted through and developed large holes. It is noted that the bridge had been downgraded from a weight limit of 16 tons to 6 tons and may need to be closed. She stated that the highway would be asking for \$65,000 to \$70,000 for needed repairs. She was questioned as to why Cum Bridge funds could not be used and she told that the funds have been prioritized for Stockpile Road Bridge. Councilman Hall questioned Mrs. Maxie about not paying bills on time and noted that some bills were dated for last September and November. He noted that this makes it difficult to forecast budget needs/request. Mr. Hall noted that this was situation was not only being addressed to the Highway but to the whole county.

Additional – a motion was made by Daryl Kramer to accept as submitted and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Koch. Motion carried.

Transfers – a motion to deny a request for a \$10,000.00 transfer from highway to purchase a sweeper for cleaning the roadway was made by Daryl Kramer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Koch. Motion carried with Dean McQueen voting NAY. Other transfers were approved as submitted.

Salary Ordinance - It was also noted that the Seasonal mower would be paid \$9.00 per hour as noted in the Salary Ordinance as opposed to \$10.00 paid last year.

Judge/Prosecutor – Councilman Kramer stated he had heard from Attorney Reeves regarding the gradual elimination of the \$5,000 stipend paid by the county toward the salaries of the Judge and Prosecutor can be legally eliminated. State constitution states that a judge's pay cannot be reduced and the pay of prosecutor is set to match the judge. This year the pay increase from the state will go from \$136,000 to \$139,000 about 2.2%. A motion was made by Daryl Kramer to table that of the Prosecutor to the July meeting and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Keith Hall. Motion was denied. Voting in favor was Daryl Kramer and Keith Hall. Opposed – Jeff Koch, Joe Sizemore and Dean McQueen. A motion was made by Daryl Kramer to pay \$2,500.00 of the Prosecutor's stipend so the county would match the judges and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Keith Hall. Motion carried.

Other business – President Oglesby noted that the Field Rep of DLGF would be here on Aug. 5 and if any council members wanted to attend. Daryl Kramer, Keith Hall and Joe Sizemore expressed interested in setting in on the meeting. Also Jennifer Thompson told the Council about her new business "Doggie Day Care." She was asking advice of the Council which directed her to check with the Brookville Town Council and Area Plan.

Adjourn – no further business a motion was made by Joe Sizemore to adjourn and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dean McQueen. Motion carried.

Others in attendance – Grant Reeves, Mark and Millie Simmermeyer, Jerry Hesselbrock, Ted Hensley, Bill Schirmer, Carroll Lanning, James Hensley, Jennifer Thompson, Hollie Maxie, Joann Koch, Renee Estridge, Monica Yane, Gary Dorrel, Connie Bischoff and Wayne Monroe. The names are spelled correctly as per the sign in sheet.

AYE

Becky Oglesby

Keith Hall

Aaron Leffingwell

Jeff Koch

Daryl Kramer

Joe Sizemore

Dean McQueen

Attest:

Stephen Brack, Auditor

NAY

Becky Oglesby

Keith Hall

Aaron Leffingwell

Jeff Koch

Daryl Kramer

Joe Sizemore

Dean McQueen

ABSTAIN WAS ABSENT FOR MTG.